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MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016

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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016 | High 5°C/Low 0°C Cloudy

TOO BROKE TO BREAK UP
How will I make rent?

#WomenOnBoards **A METRO SPECIAL FOCUS**

Murder shocks medical community

HOMICIDE

Details emerge in chilling case of husband-wife doctors

As Toronto police photographed and searched the North York home once shared by doctors Elana Fric-Shamji and Mohammed Shamji, a group of Ontario physicians called an emergency meeting Sunday to discuss ways to commemorate a much-loved family doctor allegedly killed by her neurosurgeon husband.

Two days after police charged Toronto Western Hospital's Dr. Mohammed Shamji with first-degree murder in the death of Fric-Shamji — his wife and the mother of his three children — investigators obtained authorization to search the family's large, brick home on Verwood Avenue in the Bathurst and Sheppard area.

Friends of Fric-Shamji laid flowers on the home's front lawn Sunday, while neighbours expressed sadness and shock.

According to colleagues, Fric-Shamji, 40, filed for a divorce from her husband of 12 years just over a week ago. The accomplished physician, who worked at the Scarborough General Hospital's family practice teaching unit, said she was looking forward to a fresh start.

On Sunday, many of the same medical colleagues who last weekend were working alongside Fric-Shamji at a council meeting for the Ontario Medical Association (OMA) found themselves planning a commemoration of her life.

Fric-Shamji was reported missing Thursday, after she failed to show up for work. That afternoon, the body of a woman was discovered by York Regional Police near a bridge beside the West Humber River.

According to a source with knowledge of the investigation, Fric-Shamji's body was found in a suitcase. Police say she was strangled and suffered blunt force trauma of some kind.

Elana Fric-Shamji and Mohammed Shamji FACEBOOK

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

POLITICAL GAMBLE Tory's U-turn on road tolls — and how we got here **metroNEWS**

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Your essential daily news

Italian Premier Matteo Renzi says he is resigning after losing reforms referendum. **World**

Humans of Toronto by K. Omar

“My future goal is to work for the United Nations, so I was so happy that I got accepted. I remember the day when I got the letter, my dad was beside me and he had tears in his eyes. Yeah, I think that was the happiest thing, getting accepted into my International Development program at U of T. But, the hardest thing was to leave my family, my grandparents, and so many cousins. I was just so attached to them. I came here, and I thought, ‘I don’t know if I’m going to make friends. I don’t know if I’m going to be the person that I am right now.’

Humans of Toronto is K. Omar’s social photography project aimed at photographing and talking to people in the city. Selections from her work feature weekly in Metro. See more at Humans of Toronto on Instagram.

Driving positive thoughts

COMMUNITY

Business lifts spirits with happy words on its sign

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

An auto repair garage in Toronto’s west end is trying to solve more than just people’s car troubles.

Master Mechanic High Park near Dundas and Roncesvalles is using the space on its billboard to cheer people up through messages of hope and encouragement.

The latest instalment is a kindness campaign where passersby can grab a free scarf to keep them warm.

Shop owner Josie Candito and her business partners recently ordered about 100 scarves and the shop leaves them attached to the billboard.

The message on top reads: “I’m not lost! Please take me if you are cold.”

“Temperatures are dropping fast so we’re just trying to help those who are going through a rough time,” said the cheerful Candito.

Josie Candito and her business partners at Master Mechanic High Park use the garage’s billboard to spread positive messages in the community. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

Rough times are something the 44-year-old mechanic can relate to.

Back in 2014, she lost both parents to cancer, was diagnosed with fibromyalgia and two of her bulldogs also died.

“I hit rock bottom,” she said.

To lift her spirits, she would often read inspirational quotes and other sayings. Eventually, she decided to start sharing them on the billboard.

The shop has since posted messages about respect for women and animal rights, or simply appeals for people to smile and help others to do the same.

Candito hopes her approach will rub off on other businesses across the city.

“The world’s gotta get kind again, you know,” she said. “You hear all the negative stuff all the time, and sometimes you just need somebody to make you feel better.”

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#WomenOnBoards

A Metro special focus

Women fight for place in the sun

EQUAL RIGHTS

Despite efforts, gender parity distant on Bay Street boards

Tara Deschamps
For Metro | Toronto

For years, Lina Duque has hustled for Bay Street businesses, doing everything from consulting to marketing and helping corporate CEOs raise their profile to nab leadership jobs.

Danielle Dowdy traded gigs at General Motors and Procter and Gamble to become a Toronto Police Service analyst. Now she's tasked with investigating how to improve transparency with the Special Investigations Unit.

Meanwhile, Poonam Puri, an Osgoode Hall Law School professor, made her way into some of the industry's biggest boys' clubs, taking seats on engineering and mining boards and juggling similar roles at hospitals.

While their paths to success are different, the three have at least one thing in common. They're all part of a large group of women willing, qualified and waiting to sit on boards.

They're the kind of people who can help solve a problem Metro has delved into for the past four weeks — a lack of gender parity on GTA boards.

The three women — and many others like them — disprove persistent claims from companies who say there aren't enough qualified women ready to serve on boards.

"Women make up 50 per cent of society. There are women in every field you can think of," says Dowdy, who calls such claims "disingenuous." "Either they are not looking for women or the people they have internally don't know where to look."

Last month, the Canadian Board Diversity Council released its annual list of 50 professionals it recommends for board positions. The list includes men of minorities, but the bulk are women like Puri.

Danielle Dowdy, left, and Lina Duque have enough experience in the corporate sector to earn a seat on a board, but both are still waiting. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

She counts herself among the few "really fortunate" women who haven't faced difficulty nabbing a seat at the boardroom table, but there are times when she was the lone woman on a board, even after equity organizations and the province began pushing 30 per cent female representation targets.

"Change is slow and it would be ideal if there was more meaningful change," Puri said. "I think we can do better."

Dowdy, a former board member for the Black Business and Professionals Association, agrees.

She once applied to be on a government board, but despite the lack of women on several, she didn't even get a response after she sent in her application.

In other cases, her gender and experience working with youth have caused people to typecast her and push her towards community-based boards, which have been better at reaching parity than some large corporations.

"It's the boards that are senior male homogenous that are missing that perspective," Dowdy said, adding that for someone like her — a young black woman — to get on those boards means facing a trio of challenges.

"You never know which barrier will present itself, but it does."

While Duque, a social media strategist hoping to land a corporate board spot, has noticed sometimes it takes someone championing a woman for her to get on a board, she's slowly been seeing more women land leadership roles and board spots in part because of Facebook and Twitter.

Duque says at least one woman she's worked with credits its social media for helping her become a hospital CEO and land several board appointments.

"It can be the equalizer. It helps women raise their profile and get the attention of senior executives and other board members," she said.

Duque stresses she's not putting the onus on women, but on both genders. She also pointed out that a number of studies show companies with higher numbers of female board members outperform male-dominated ones.

"A diverse team will always outperform a homogenous one every time," Dowdy said. "We can't solve problems with a single lens… We need to have people from every perspective represented."

WOMEN IN HIGH PLACES

Here's how some GTA companies are trying to get more women on boards:

BHP Billiton Ltd.
This Anglo-Australian mining company with a Toronto office has vowed to make sure women make up half its workforce by 2025.

Bank of Montreal
BMO launched a mutual fund in April that only invests in North American companies with a female CEO or a board with at least 25 per cent women.

TD Canada Trust
This bank has a program connecting female employees with senior executives in an effort to create mentorship opportunities and help women get leadership positions.

CIBC
CIBC and the Richard Ivey School of Business have partnered to create a program to helps women readjust to the corporate workforce and set career goals after taking time off.

ABOUT THIS SERIES

A Metro analysis of Toronto-based boards shows there's lots of work to be done when it comes to giving women an equal share of power in the private and public sectors.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Urge companies and city council to make gender parity a priority by reaching out directly. Visit **metronews.ca/womenonboards** to learn more.

Share your stories and opinions by using the hashtag **#WomenOnBoards** on Twitter.

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Tory's long road to tolls

TRANSPORTATION

Mayor, staff spent months laying the groundwork

To Mayor John Tory's trusted advisers, it seemed an incongruous end to months of internal debate and strategizing on how to address Toronto's financial challenges, build transit — and not hurt his shot at re-election.

Jet-lagged and still wearing the Christmas-themed, Don Cherry-style jacket from his appearance at the Santa Claus parade, Tory delivered an impassioned speech on his willingness to back road tolls, even if it meant putting his political career at risk.

"This is the right way forward. This is the right time and it's the right thing to do," Tory told his relieved staffers gathered in the boardroom of his second-floor office at city hall, four days before announcing the proposal publicly in a speech to the Toronto Region Board of Trade.

Mayor John Tory put his political career at risk when he went from calling tolls 'highway robbery' to crusading for them.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The road to that watershed moment — and raising Tory's comfort level to make the boldest, most significant decision of his mayoralty — took months of preparation of all those assembled: chief of staff Chris Eby; principal secretary Vic Gupta; Siri Agrell, director of strategic initiatives; Amanda Galbraith, director of communications, and Luke Robertson, director of council and stakeholder relations.

They began laying the groundwork with Tory's call for 2.6 per cent reductions from city departments and agencies. But that narrative of the right — cutting waste and finding efficiencies will solve all fiscal challenges — doesn't build subway lines.

Then there were the forceful urgings of Peter Wallace, the respected city manager: Toronto council must take a hard look at how it is going to pay for urgently needed, already approved, capital costs, including transit expansion.

> **This is the right time and it's the right thing to do.**
> Mayor John Tory

A KPMG report provided a list of politically unpalatable ways to pay the tab. Council could impose new taxes or levies on commercial parking spaces, hotel rooms, and alcohol, gasoline or road tolls. Other tax measures included a municipal income or sales tax.

What Tory refused to do, despite appeals from left-wing councillors, was retreat from his 2014 campaign promise to keep property tax increases at or below the rate of inflation.

Over the summer, Tory concluded he had no choice. The city has $33 billion in unfunded projects. It fell to his staff to narrow the choices.

A hotel tax was a no brainer. There would be little political fallout by making visitors pay.

But reinstating a vehicle registration tax was a non-starter.

Tory also gleaned from his monthly meetings with Premier Kathleen Wynne there would be other no-goes. These included a sales tax and an alcohol tax.

A parking levy came with major implementation issues, possible legal challenges and too many councillors seeking exemptions. There was also vigorous lobbying by a coalition of commercial real estate associations and representatives of some of the city's wealthiest landowners.

With the list of options whittled down, road tolls started to look pretty good to Tory's inner circle.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Man with stab wounds drove to closed hospital

A man in his 20s suffering stab wounds drove himself to a now-defunct hospital emergency ward in North York before he died of his wounds early Sunday morning. The emergency ward at the Humber River Urgent Care Centre at Finch Ave. W. and Highway 400 has been closed for over a year. The hospital at 2111 Finch Ave. W. is now only open Monday to Friday where it provides services such as CT and MRIs.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Victim of fatal collision identified as teen girl

Peel Regional Police have identified Madeleine Petrielli as the 15-year-old victim of Friday's fatal collision in Mississauga. Petrielli was crossing Britannia Rd. at Glen Erin Dr. with a male friend at around 8:30 p.m. when an eastbound silver Honda CRV struck her. According to police, her friend, who had reached the middle of the intersection, was not hit. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

Barriers must be removed

Students in wheelchairs who can't use playground equipment or open classroom doors. Children with impaired vision or dyslexia unable to read the Smartboard in class.

These are just a few examples of obstacles faced by special needs students from pre-school to university who aren't getting the education they're entitled to, according to a group of almost two dozen community groups.

Their solution: an education accessibility standard across Ontario. On Monday, the 22 groups will be asking Premier Kathleen Wynne for that commitment, arguing it would be a monumental step towards providing special needs kids with classroom settings, curriculum and teaching that are vital to their futures.

"These barriers make it harder for students with disabilities to succeed in Ontario's education system," the groups say in a five-page letter to be sent to Wynne.

"They contribute to the high unemployment rate among Ontarians with disabilities."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

A more level playing field

POLITICS

Guide offers tips to aspiring municipal politicians

May Warren
Metro | Toronto

When Parthi Kandavel ran for Toronto District School Board trustee in 2010 there was no manual.

He spent months "learning on the fly" about making a communications plan, recruiting and supervising volunteers and fundraising as a first time candidate.

It's because of stories like his that the Open Democracy Project, a non-partisan non-profit, is building Democracy Kit, a new resource for aspiring municipal politicians.

The guide will offer a suite of tips and tools, ranging from case studies of past campaigns to data management templates for voter's lists.

Parthi Kandavel, left; Volunteers with the Open Democracy Project take part in a town hall to help design the new Democracy Kit, a how-to guide to running for city council. CONTRIBUTED

So far, a crowd funding campaign has raised almost $20,000 towards creating the toolkit.

Kandavel, who lost in 2010 but was elected as a trustee in 2014, said he wished something like it was available to him when he first ran.

"It levels the playing field because it allows them to focus on the main pieces of being elected, what's your message, knocking on doors," he said.

Chris Cowperthwaite, a campaign consultant who is also the son of Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, is one of the people championing the project.

He hopes Democracy Kit can make a dent in the huge advantage incumbent councillors and school trustees have.

Some, rookies, like Kandavel, do crack through and beat incumbents, but it can be a "herculean" task to get elected for the first time without the connections and donors that sitting city politicians have, Cowperthwaite said.

Unlike provincial and federal politics, there are no parties at the city level to help first-timers learn the ropes and raise the funds.

Seeing the same people on council re-elected every time means less diversity, and fewer fresh ideas, Cowperthwaite said. "It's a problem because at the end of the day city council doesn't represent the city," he added, "the council seat and a school board seat isn't intended to be a job for life, it's turned out that way."

+ INCUMBENTS

Just how bad is the incumbency advantage?

Based on data from Canada's three largest cities over the past 10 years, incumbent councillors win re-election more than 90 per cent of the time.

In the 2014 Toronto election, only one candidate out of 44 races was able to defeat an incumbent councillor.

SOURCE: DEMOCRACY KIT

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Lisa Marie Chen (MBA '11), Lead Content Strategist, Watson Analytics, IBM

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First Nations tackle sexual abuse scourge

Fred Kejick Thomas remembers the exact day — April 14, 2005 — when he confronted the uncle who had sexually molested him when he was four years old.

The 68-year-old from the Lac Seul First Nation in northwestern Ontario took it upon himself to confront his demons, but not everyone has that kind of strength — rather, it's up to community leaders to forge real, lasting solutions and push them aggressively at the national level, say the many indigenous victims of childhood sexual abuse who took part in a months-long investigation by The Canadian Press.

Kejick Thomas sums up the problem bluntly: "We have a lot of perpetrators."

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde has urged his organization's chiefs to summon the courage to acknowledge the painful legacy of abuse on reserves. The AFN holds its annual meeting this week in Gatineau, Que.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hey,
WHITE PERSON
• Tired of political correctness?
• Wondering why only white countries have to become 'multicultural'?
• Figured out that diversity only means 'less white people'?

This poster found in Toronto recently caused outrage across the country. TWITTER.COM

MONTREAL

Being a sister in 2016 more different than ever

Sheila Sullivan was one of 58 prospective religious sisters to join Montreal's Congregation de Notre-Dame in 1964.

In 2016, only one woman in Canada has applied to join the religious community.

As church attendance declines and the community shrinks with age, some of Notre-Dame's sisters are carving out a new reality in a secular age: one that includes embracing social media and, at times, modern activism.

The congregation's activities are chronicled on their social media accounts: interviews with sisters on YouTube; Twitter links to articles on ending violence toward women; and Facebook posts documenting recent gatherings.

Their website has a section on social justice and environmental issues, as well as a page titled "To Be A Sister In 2016."

Sullivan, who is active on social media, has also been using Skype to counsel the congregation's one new recruit.

Sullivan and her fellow religious sisters Marilyn von Zuben and Lorraine Costello have all celebrated more than 50 years of service. They're also three of the youngest and most active members of a dwindling congregation and are doing their best to adapt their 400-year-old institution to the modern age.

For von Zuben, that means spending two afternoons a week volunteering with refugees at a local YMCA residence, where she tries to be an "encouraging presence." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Notre Dame Sisters Sheila Sullivan, from left, Martha Lucia Perez Gutierrez, of Guatemala, Lorraine Costello, Ercilia Janeth Ferrera Erazo, of Honduras, and Marilyn von Zuben. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Right-wing extremism exists in Canada

But Canadian values and laws make it difficult for people similar to U.S.-based white nationalists to unite north of the border.

KRISTEN THOMPSON FOR METRO

The morning after Donald Trump won the U.S. presidential election, many Canadians took to social media to express dismay, mixed with and a hefty dose of smugness. "Thankful to live in Canada" people wrote. "Good luck, 'Merica."

Almost as quickly, hate crimes began to be noticed on this side of the border. To suggest these were the work of trolls ignores the reality that right-wing extremism already existed here.

The reality is that roots of the right-wing movement in Canada can be traced back more than a century. Trump's win has simply given legitimacy to those who already held racist, homophobic and sexist beliefs. People are calling it "the Trump effect" — the idea that his rhetoric is emboldening racists in the U.S., and here at home.

"The Trump election has brought these seedy characters out of the shadows," says Barbara Perry, a professor in the faculty of Social Science and Humanities at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, who specializes in hate crime.

CANADA VS. THE U.S.

The far-right in the U.S. and in Canada share many of the same core values: They tend to believe the "white" way is under attack, are usually anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim, and hold homophobic and misogynistic beliefs.

Those who subscribe to the American far right in particular also tend to be highly nationalistic, suspicious of government, and passionate about individual liberties such as the right to own guns.

The Canadian context is a little different, according to Ryan Scrivens, a PhD student at Simon Fraser University who studies criminology and right wing extremism. For one, there is less emphasis on gun rights and survivalism. And the far-right network on this side of the border is less organized, and suffers from discord and infighting.

WHAT KEEPS THEM FROM ORGANIZING

Canada's history is different from that of the U.S., and the path we carved out for ourselves has led to a relatively tolerant society that celebrates diversity. This set of values makes it hard for extremism to take root here, so say our experts.

When talking about "the seething racial tensions and xenophobia, I'd have to say we are far off that boiling point," says Arne Kislenko, Associate Professor of History at Ryerson University, and an instructor in the International Relations Program at the University of Toronto.

"Canada is no paradise, and we have many problems of our own, including those related to discrimination and racism. But we have, I think, built a comparably more harmonious, open, and liberal society that stands fundamentally opposed to the kind of divisions we have seen exposed in the U.S."

WE HAVE DIFFERENT LAWS

If racist sentiment flourishes in an environment where it's not challenged, then perhaps our hate laws — and the U.S.' lack thereof — play a key role in that.

"White supremacists exist in Canada, but it's illegal to draw swastikas on the side of synagogues," says Ayesha S. Chaudhry, Associate Professor of Islamic Studies and Gender Studies at UBC.

BUT WE'RE NOT PERFECT

"This is a wake up call for all of us not to tolerate injustice in our communities," says Chaudhry. "We really need think about the way that we systematically (condone) inequality in our justice system. The fact that we have a higher incarceration rate (for certain groups) means we are structurally discriminating against them, so it's important for Canadians to come together and look at this seriously."

Chaudhry adds that these groups thrive in an environment that doesn't acknowledge or stand up against them, and the media has a responsibility to keep this conversation alive, and interrogate people who espouse views that reflect intolerance.

Ralliers call for Alberta premier to be locked up

Federal Conservative leadership hopeful Chris Alexander says he didn't stop a crowd calling for Alberta Premier Rachel Notley to be locked up because politicians need to listen to constituents.

The former immigration minister was speaking at a rally against the provincial NDPs' planned carbon tax Saturday when protesters began the "Lock her up" chant popularized during Donald Trump's campaign.

"I totally disapprove of that particular chant. I don't think it's fair. I don't think it's the right thing to say at a rally or elsewhere, and that's why I didn't join it," Alexander said Sunday.

The Edmonton rally was organized by Rebel Media, an online news and right-wing opinion outlet, and video of the incident was posted on Twitter by the website's Alberta bureau chief Sheila Gunn Reid.

The video shows the ralliers start by chanting "Vote her out," but as they grow louder, the message changes.

As they chant "Lock her up," Alexander smiles and appears to gesture in time with the chant, nodding along.

Someone can be heard shouting, "That's enough! That's enough!" in the background, and as Alexander smiles and nods.

At no point in the video does Alexander stop the protesters or say anything about their chant.

"You don't pick it up in the video, but I started to say the words in time with them, 'Vote her out,' and then the next point I made was about the ballot box," he said. "I expressed my disapproval by talking about something completely different: voting. I think that was pretty clear." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory leadership candidate Chris Alexander THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds block Dakota Access pipeline route

STANDING ROCK

North Dakota leaders say the decision sends 'chilling signal'

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said Sunday that it won't grant an easement for the Dakota Access oil pipeline in southern North Dakota, handing a victory to the Standing Rock Sioux tribe and its supporters, who argued the project would threaten a water source and cultural sites.

North Dakota's leaders criticized the decision, with Gov. Jack Dalrymple calling it a "serious mistake" that "prolongs the dangerous situation" of having several hundred protesters who are camped out on federal land during cold, wintry weather. U.S. Rep. Kevin Cramer said it's a "very chilling signal" for the future of infrastructure in the United States.

Activists celebrate at Oceti Sakowin Camp on the edge of the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation on Sunday outside Cannon Ball, North Dakota. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

The four-state, $3.8-billion project is largely complete except for the now-blocked segment underneath Lake Oahe, a Missouri River reservoir. Assistant Secretary for Civil Works Jo-Ellen Darcy said that her decision was based on the need to "explore alternate routes."

"Although we have had continuing discussion and exchanges of new information with the Standing Rock Sioux and Dakota Access, it's clear that there's more work to do," Darcy said. "The best way to complete that work … is to explore alternate routes."

The company constructing the pipeline, Dallas-based Energy Transfer Partners, had said it was unwilling to reroute the project. It had no comment Sunday.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier, whose department has done much of the policing for the protests, said that "local law enforcement does not have an opinion" on the easement and that his department will continue to "enforce the law."

U.S. Secretary for the Interior Sally Jewell said in a statement that the Corps' "thoughtful approach … ensures that there will be an in-depth evaluation of alternative routes for the pipeline and a closer look at potential impacts."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OAKLAND

Teens among dead in warehouse fire

The death toll from a fire that tore through a warehouse hosting a late-night dance party in Oakland climbed to 33 on Sunday as firefighters painstakingly combed through rubble for others believed to still be missing.

Less than half of the charred remains of the partly collapsed structure had been searched, and crews clearing debris were expected to find more bodies as they advanced, Alameda County Sheriff's Sgt. Ray Kelly said.

Officials said they have identified seven people who were killed.

Among them is Donna Kellogg, according to her father, Keith Slocum. He declined additional comment.

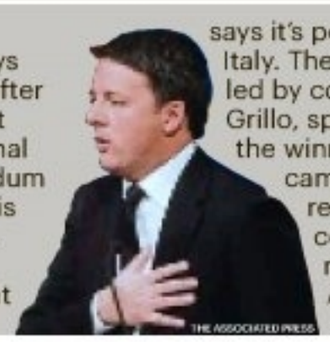
Kelly said those killed range in age from teenagers to 30-plus years old.

Anxious family members who feared the worst gathered at the sheriff's office to await word on their loved ones. They were told they may have to provide DNA samples to help identify remains.

The building known as the "Ghost Ship" had been carved into artist studios and was an illegal home for a rotating cast of a dozen or more people, according to former denizens who said it was a cluttered death trap with few exits, piles of wood and a mess of snaking electric cords.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ITALIAN PREMIER LOSES REFERENDUM



Italian Premier Matteo Renzi says he is resigning after a stinging defeat on a constitutional reforms referendum that he staked his premiership on. The populist 5-Star Movement says it's poised to govern Italy. The Movement, led by comic Beppe Grillo, spearheaded the winning "No"-vote campaign in a referendum on constitutional reforms. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

metro VIEWS
Your essential daily news
Monday, December 5, 2016

URBAN ETIQUETTE ELLEN VANSTONE

THE QUESTION

I want to buy an expensive Christmas gift for the person I've just started dating. Am I being too forward?

Dear Ellen,
What is the etiquette for buying Christmas presents when you've just started dating someone? I met a guy a week ago, and I already know exactly what to get him: a Low-Temperature Stirling Engine Kit from Lee Valley Tools. I don't know what it is, but he thought it was pretty cool, so I ordered one for him. But now I'm worried it might seem too forward? What do you think?

Signed,
Jenny

Dear Jenny,
I think this is a very lucky guy because I looked up the Low-Temperature Stirling Engine Kit, and it does look cool, though I can't tell if it makes tea or runs on tea. For $189 plus tax, I'm thinking it should maybe do both.

But you're right. It could seem forward if he's not thinking of you as a serious romantic partner/investment at this point. Maybe not as forward as a box of sex toys from your local love shop. But still problematic if he shows up empty-handed or (worse) with a cheap, thoughtless, last-minute chocolate orange from the drugstore.

Part of me loves the idea of giving him the cool, expensive engine kit, because I totally relate to shopping for The Perfect Gift. Unfortunately this sometimes results in buying fabulous, unique items for people I don't even like, and dumping defeatist gift certificates on loved ones who are hard to shop for. But when creative shopping is part of the fun, 'tis better to give, in my books.

Whatever social debacle that results will quickly clarify the terms of the relationship.

Then again, another part of me wants to advise against it, in case you show up with your magnificent gift and he shows up empty-handed, not wanting to seem forward himself. Worst-case scenario is that he feels terrible, bad, small and cheap because you in your enthusiasm have gone overboard so early in the relationship. You could possibly avoid this by dropping major hints well ahead of time, or even say outright that "Santa may be dropping something down my chimney for you" (which sounds both gross and suggestive, but you get the idea). Still, it's a risk.

On the upside, whatever social debacle that results will quickly clarify the terms of the relationship. If you've duly delivered the requisite gift-giving hints, and he still shows up empty-handed, you'll know you have someone on your hands who is a cheapskate, or an emotional trifler, or a clueless clod who can't take a hint, or all of the above. He, meanwhile, may conclude that you are a wonderful angel he's not worthy of, or an emotionally manipulative spendthrift he has to dump immediately.

It's also possible you'll both survive an awkward situation, and have a funny story for years to come. Why not? In the crapshoot that is Christmas, anything is possible. Even miracles.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

VICKY MOCHAMA

It's obvious we need to reform the Liberals' electoral-reform process

An all-party committee spent months listening to testimony from over 200 experts on how to reform our electoral system. The committee heard what the experts said and concluded it was time for an inexpert opinion. In their final recommendation, they said it would be best to ask the public via a referendum.

I'm not in favour of referenda. The question could be as simple as "Does Tim Horton's serve coffee? Yes or No?" and the ensuing public debate would be rancorous and divisive. The Yes camp would call into question the other side's patriotism while the No camp would wonder aloud if Tim Horton's coffee is technically coffee and not a "caffeinated liquid."("Of course, they serve coffee but what they really serve is unity in a time of uncertainty" is precisely the kind of column someone like me would write.)

There would be Facebook posts, Twitter debates and, oh God, imagine the hashtags. This being the future, a smart woman might say something like "Coffee is not for me," and would be besieged by coffee nationalists calling for her death. In 2013, Scottish comedian Susan Calman made jokes about the Scottish independence referendum for which she was sent death threats. Since I'm invested in a) making jokes about electoral minutiae and b) not dying, a referendum seems like a bad way to go.

The Liberals would rather not have a referendum either. Except that they too have decided to ask the public. The government will be mailing out postcards to 15 million households; the household will then go online to answer questions about their "values" pertaining to democratic reform. Family Game Night, watch out.

Despite all these gestures toward fact-finding and consultation, the Liberals seem uninterested in electoral reform now that they're in government. You can tell because during question period on Thursday, they decided to let Maryam Monsef make jokes about her colleagues. It did not go well, and she has since apologized. A quick way to kill a good conversation is to let earnest people do comedy.

Nonetheless, both options feel rather like punting the decision. Having watched the pound collapse after Brexit, I'd rather not stock up on gold bars and offshore accounts because of a vote on mixed-member proportional versus whatever the other option is. And answering questions online about my voting values is the least exciting activity the Internet has to offer.

A referendum, an online survey — the upshot of both is a lack of leadership and a dearth of decisiveness. After months of expert testimony and a cross-country tour by the minister, there ought to be an answer here. The public has already been consulted: we held an election last year and picked 338 people who should make some decisions.

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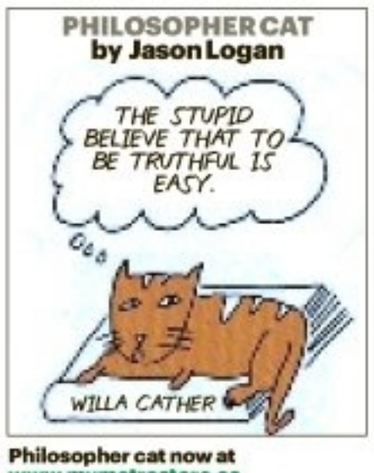

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metro LIFE

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Monday, December 5, 2016

These animals travel the ocean. That's what they explore daily. No tank will be big enough. No tank will ever be deep enough, ever be exciting enough.
Game of Thrones star Maisie Williams protests dolphin shows

RELATIONSHIPS

Young couples delay breaking up because they can't make rent alone

Megan Haynes
For Metro Canada

Annette Jones* knew she and her boyfriend of two years weren't going to last.

She'd been unhappy for months, and he was withdrawn. But they shared a large social circle. And she cared deeply for him.

She also couldn't afford to leave.

The 30-year-old from Kanata works in the service industry and doesn't make a lot of money. She didn't have much in the way of savings. She worried about making rent for a place on her own.

In short, she was too broke to break up. As the months dragged, she grew bitter and depressed.

"It made me feel helpless — like I was stuck, like I had no autonomy," she says.

The pair did eventually break up, though Jones says the relationship probably lasted six months too long.

"I think we both just sort of ignored the issue because he was also aware that my financial situation would put me in a rough place," she says.

She stayed with friends for a few weeks, and her ex helped her cover first and last month's rent when she found an inexpensive place to live. But she had to dip into her credit, which stressed her out further.

She isn't alone: a recent study from TD Canada found half of millennials and gen-Xers who were divorced or separated were not financially prepared to live life solo, while another 23 percent delayed a breakup because of unexpected costs.

Breakups are inevitable, but with generally lower wages and the high cost of living in cities, they can put a huge financial strain on couples — particularly those with young children, says Shelley Smith, a financial planner with TD.

"Breaking up is so, so stressful," she says. Preplanning is the key to alleviating this stress.

While no one plans for a breakup, it's important for couples to come up with contingencies, such as separate savings that both parties contribute equally to, she says. However you save money, it should leave each party in a position to manage finances solo short-term should something catastrophic (such as a breakup, or worse, death) happen.

Financial autonomy is the key for any relationship, says Shannon Lee Simmons, a financial planner and owner of The New School of Finance. It's not about financial independence, she says, rather both partners need to know what's happening with the money.

"I've seen a lot of time where one person is the financial quarterback of the household — they handle all the finances — and then (the couple) gets divorced and that can be a huge smack in the face for someone who's been hands-off," she says. "It's not even just divorce — what if someone passes away? Do you know enough about how to take the reins (of the household) and run with it?"

And in the end, it's never worth staying in a relationship over money fears: while it can be stressful, there's always a way to manage finances, Simmons says. "Breakups suck, they're hard on everyone, but they're often necessary and people do pop up on the other side OK."

Name has been changed

ISTOCK

$ WHEN IT ENDS

If you find yourself in a position where you aren't financially prepared to be on your own, here are a few ways to deal with the fallout.

- **Build a timeline.** If both parties can co-exist in the same space, such as in different suites in a shared home, having a set time down the road for decoupling can be a good way for both parties to get on their feet financially, says financial planner Shelley Smith.
- **Seek financial advice.** Smith says sometimes getting a third-party view on the situation can help. Financial planners can work with clients to identify goals and come up with a plan (as a couple or individually) to achieve those goals.
- **Stay with family or friends.** While Simmons acknowledges this isn't always a possibility, when you can tap into a support network, it can not only help ease financial stress but also be a good source of emotional help.

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12 great motivations to get out of debt now

ADVICE

Financial freedom wins to keep your eye on the prize

Gail Vaz-Oxlade
For Metro Canada

Having the weight of debt lifted off your chest means you can breathe easy and enjoy life more. ISTOCK

It's impossible to describe how good it feels to owe nobody nuthin'. You can stop banging your head against the wall for having racked up debt. Just imagine all the money you'll save on Advil.

If you're still working your way to debt-free forever, here are a dozen reasons why you should keep pushing forward:

12. You can breathe. Having had the weight of that debt lifted off your chest, you can breathe easy. It feels soooo gooood not having a hippo sitting on you.

11. You can live in the present. Satisfy today's needs and wants instead of paying for the past. Have that latte without feeling like a total doofus because the money should be going to pay off your debt. Want to see a movie, buy a book or take the kids on vacation? Go right ahead. It's your money and you can do whatever you want with it.

10. You can brag to your kids. Use your experiences to teach them about money so they avoid the bad-debt traps. You may not have realized just where you were headed when you first decided not to pay off your credit card in full, but now you know. You can speak with authority when it comes to educating your kids about credit and how to use it wisely.

9. You don't have to worry about late fees and interest costs. Or where interest rates are going, or how the credit scoring system is jerking people around. You're in the clear. They can all go to hell.

8. You get to earn interest instead of paying interest. It may not be much but it sure feels good having the shoe on the other foot.

7. You no longer have to dread going to the mailbox or answering your telephone.

6. You can afford to save. For your children's education, your own retirement, and anything you want to buy. The future looks good.

5. You can become the financial guru of your gang. Go ahead and try it. It feels fabulous to inspire and encourage family and friends to take control of their money and their lives.

4. You can give. Y'know, there are only three things you can do with money: spend, save and give. You already know how good it feels to spend; that's how you got into debt in the first place. And it's a great feeling watching your money grow. Giving comes with its own rush.

3. You can quit your second, third and fourth jobs. Man, won't it be great to sleep in on Saturday morning?

2. You can set goals and start working toward them. Want to own a home? Have a family? Go back to school? You can do it with a plan and the money you're no longer spending on debt repayment.

1. You can blow a raspberry at every credit app that comes through the door and every telemarketer who offers to lower your interest rate. That might be the best feeling of all.

For more money advice, visit Gail's website at gailvazoxlade.com

5 Gifts for $25 or less (they'll actually want)

If you're buying on a budget — or there are people you only want to spend $25 on — these gifts are sure to hit the mark. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 Wild toolkit

This charming animal multi tool by Kikkerland is a handy menagerie. Heads up: it does include a small knife, so think twice before gifting this to kids. These go for $19.99 at Northwood General Store, **northwoodgeneral.ca**

Running buddy 2

If you know a running junkie, give them this personal item SPIbelt belt to hold things like keys and lip balm when they're out for a jog. Bonus: it's not a fanny pack, $23. Available at **mec.ca** and Mountain Equipment Co-op stores.

3 Keep it salty

For a classy kitchen touch, give someone this "French kitchen" marble salt cellar. It's neutral enough to match any decor, so no need to visit first to find out their colour palate, $24.95. Available at **crateandbarrel.com** and Crate and Barrel stores.

4 Cosy tuque

When the temperature dips, the tuques come out. This "expression hat" perfectly sums up winter in Canada: Freeeezing! It'll match any winter coat and it is a wool/nylon/viscose blend — in other words, it's not itchy, $24.50. Available at **chapters.indigo.ca** and Indigo stores.

5 Trendy teapot

The lizzy royal purple teapot is the perfect mix of trendy and traditional for the tea lover on your list. It's made of porcelain and coated in touchable purple silicone, $22.95. Available at **cb2.com** and CB2 stores.

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Who will dress Melania Trump?

FASHION

Designers divided on working with next first lady

First-lady-to-be Melania Trump likely won't be wearing designer Tom Ford's clothes in the White House.

Some of the designers who clamoured to dress first lady Michelle Obama have been mixed about dressing Trump, a former model. Ford became the latest to weigh in on the matter during an appearance this week on The View.

The designer was asked to dress Melania Trump "quite a few years ago," and declined because "she's not necessarily my image," he said on the ABC chat show Wednesday.

Ford is a Democrat and voted for Hillary Clinton in the presidential election, he said, before adding that even if Clinton had won, she shouldn't have worn his clothes because "they're too expensive." His clothes cost a lot to make and the president needs to "relate to everybody," he said.

Asked if Melania Trump should wear expensive clothes, Ford replied: "I'm going to leave that to Melania."

Ford was willing to dress first lady Michelle Obama for a London visit with Queen Elizabeth II in 2011 and isn't the first to be less enthusiastic about outfitting Trump.

Sophie Theallet, whose designs have been worn by Michelle Obama on several occasions, wrote in an open letter last month that she would not dress Melania Trump, and specifically brought up politics in urging her colleagues to take the same tact.

"The rhetoric of racism, sexism, and xenophobia unleashed by her husband's presidential campaign are incompatible with the shared values we live by," Theallet wrote.

The letter prompted Women's Wear Daily to survey other prominent designers on the question of working with Trump, who began modelling in Paris and Milan at age 16 before settling in New York 20 years ago.

Cynthia Rowley told WWD the question was "somewhat irrelevant," since Trump can simply buy whatever she wants to wear.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marc Jacobs said he has "no interest whatsoever" in dressing Melania Trump, while **Tommy Hilfiger** told trade magazine Women's Wear Daily that he was willing. GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTO

I was asked to dress her quite a few years ago and I declined. She's not necessarily my image. Designer Tom Ford

Checking someone's ethical beliefs before they're allowed to purchase sets up an exclusionary dynamic that feeds into the exact mentality that is preventing us from moving forward in a positive direction.
Designer Cynthia Rowley

JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Discomfiting parade of jokes

THE SHOW: Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life, Episode 2 (Netflix)
THE MOMENT: The gay pride discussion

"Two months ago I announced that we would hold the first annual Stars Hollow Gay Pride Parade," Taylor (Michael Winters) says at a town hall meeting. "But there just aren't enough gays in Stars Hollow."

"How is that possible?" asks Lorelai (Lauren Graham).

"We have such cute houses," says Babette (Sally Struthers).

"So far the list is miniscule," Taylor says. "We have Donald."

"Hi, everybody," trills Donald (Sam Pancake), sporting a lavender tee and white blazer, très Miami Vice.

"I have contacted neighbouring mayors to see if they'll lend us some of their gays, but so far not a one has cooperated," Taylor says.

"We leant them our riding mowers one year," a townsman says. "Why can't they lend us their gays?"

I have a weakness for the song "Feel Like Makin' Love" by Bad Company. It may be cheesy but I can't tell, because I was 13 when it dropped, and it carved a neural pathway of happiness. This is the only way I can explain why people are sniffle-smiling through this 10-years-later sequel to Gilmore Girls, the series.

I didn't watch the show, so its crazy veers from snappy pop culture references to sappy nostalgia to fairly tough emotional confrontations is somewhat baffling to me. (I find the conversation above embarrassing; others see charming.)

That said, it does radiate a woodstove's worth of warmth, and maybe we need that, with all the cold, sheeting fear we're feeling after the U.S. election. FYI, my fave pop culture reference: Sooki's rooster, Cogburn.

Gilmore Girls veers from sappy to referential. CONTRIBUTED

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

TEYANA TAYLOR STANDS BY WEST

Friend's advice for Kanye: Take your time

Teyana Taylor has some practical advice for her mentor, Kanye West.

The singer-dancer, who has performed with the Grammy-winning artist, wants him to take his time recovering.

"Take however much time you need, you know. Time heals all," Taylor told The Associated Press on the red carpet Friday for the VH1 Divas Holiday: Unsilent Night show.

"He's a workaholic. He worked his (expletive) off. And if he needs to get his mind right, then I think everybody should respect that and let him do that," Taylor said.

Last month, West was hospitalized in Los Angeles after displaying erratic and angry behaviour. It forced him to cancel the remaining 21 dates on his tour.

Taylor said she's stayed in touch with West.

"I sure have. That's what family is supposed to do. He definitely knows that his friends and his family's in his corner for sure," Taylor said.

Taylor and West won best dance performance at the Soul Train Awards for "Fade."

The 25-year-old singer-dancer is the newest member of the VH1 Divas club, performing with Mariah Carey, Vanessa Williams, Chaka Kahn, and Patti Labelle.

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Teyana Taylor GETTY IMAGES

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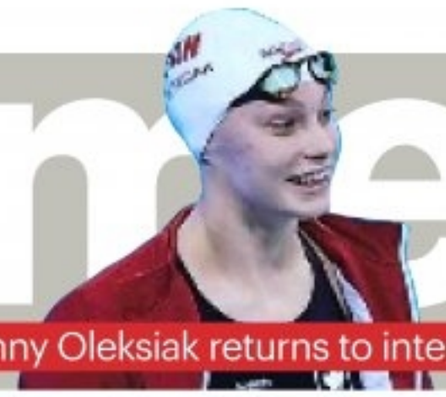

Penny Oleksiak returns to international competition at the FINA world short-course championships on Tuesday in Windsor, Ont.

Toronto FC defender Drew Moor was an MLS champion with the Colorado Rapids in 2010.
NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Embracing a hairy situation

PLAYOFF TRADITIONS

Veteran centre back Moor groomed for title spotlight

Drew Moor's beard has never been as long as it is right now.

The Toronto FC centre back made a quintessential playoff deal with fellow defender Nick Hagglund to grow out his facial hair until the Reds' playoff run came to a close.

It's not Moor's first time rocking a more shaggy look; he won Major League Soccer's biggest prize, the MLS Cup, back in 2010 with the Colorado Rapids. But that playoff run started and finished within three weeks; this year's run is double that.

"This time, I trimmed my beard about a week and a half before the end of the season and just left it after that," said Moor, whose beard is among the fullest of a Toronto FC dressing room littered with scruffy faces. "I had to start with plenty of growth."

Moor is past the itchy stage, though there are a few gray hairs popping up he could do without. But he's happy to put up with a few extra whiskers if his post-season ends in the same fashion as it did six years ago.

Nick Hagglund's playoff beard was lagging behind fellow defender Drew Moor's as of last Wednesday.
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Moor is one of only four players and staff members at TFC — midfielder Will Johnson, coach Greg Vanney and assistant coach Robin Fraser are the others — who have played for an MLS Cup.

With the honour comes a lot of ticket requests, media availabilities and other outside influences. Vanney's message to his players when they returned to training late last week was to stay focused on the game, not on the event.

Moor believes it's about finding a balance between tuning the right stuff out and embracing the good that comes with the accomplishment.

"Enjoy every moment of the week, of the days leading up to it, but when we're in the locker room, when we're on the training pitch, do what we've done all season, be ourselves," he said.

And while he's happy to dish out any advice to the MLS Cup newbies on the team, he believes that naivete can be a strength.

"I haven't been as nervous during playoffs as I've been this year in my entire career, even in the championship season in 2010, because I didn't know better."

Back then, Moor, who always hoped to get back to this point, but never expected it, didn't know how amazing winning a championship was, both in the moment and for the rest of his career.

"Once you're a champion, you're always a champion. Teams look at you differently. You look at a roster and you think, 'This guy's won a championship,' and that means something. I think sometimes a lack of experience in that situation can be a good thing."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sounders' Morris hard to ignore

Jozy Altidore will never forget the first time he played against Seattle Sounders forward Jordan Morris, MLS's newly-minted rookie of the year.

It was before the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the U.S. men's team was in California to play Stanford University to prepare. Morris was in the lineup for the Cardinal and his play stood out.

"He was great against us. We beat them like six or seven or eight to one, but he scored the goal and I remember looking over at (former national team assistant coach) Andi Herzog and saying, 'Is it too late to bring this guy, bring him along with us to Brazil?" the TFC striker said Saturday.

Altidore is hoping Morris won't be that good when he and the Sounders are in Toronto for the MLS Cup final.

$675,000

According to Sports Illustrated, Morris's three-year contract was worth $675,000 or $225,000 per year.

Morris, who earned his first cap with the U.S. national team just after that World Cup, scored in the only meeting between Toronto and Seattle this season in a 1-1 game.

The 22-year-old, scored 12 goals and four assists in his first season, becoming Seattle's top scorer in the process.

He has added two goals and an assist in the playoffs, including the winner in the second leg of the Western Conference final against Colorado.

TFC captain Michael Bradley praised Morris's performance last week and while Nicolas Lodeiro, the MLS newcomer of the year, has four goals in these playoffs, Bradley believes Morris is the one to watch.

"For me, the guy who has really put (the Sounders) on his back in a lot of situations and in the last few months is Jordan," Bradley said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jozy Altidore
GETTY IMAGES

Jordan Morris
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NHL

Faceoffs part of Babcock's focus on puck possession

Tyler Bozak knows exactly who is going to win the next faceoff.

"Whoever cheats more," says the Maple Leafs veteran.

The 30-year-old Bozak has matured into one of the best faceoff men in the NHL, ninth in the league, through Saturday, among those who had taken 200 or more faceoffs this season. And he wins draws everywhere: in the offensive zone (58.0 per cent), in the defensive zone (52.3), and in the neutral zone (60.8).

"It all depends on who I'm against and where it is on the ice," Bozak says. "I know the majority of the other centres and what they like to do, and I watch video before the game on what the guys are doing."

The Maple Leafs are in the middle of the pack, with their 49.0 faceoff percentage tied for 19th among the league's 30 teams heading into Sunday. Bozak (57.1) and Ben Smith (52.6) have been their most reliable at the dot, Auston Matthews (45.6) and Nazem Kadri (44.8) less so.

The Leafs, as a team, have been average in the offensive zone (51.7 per cent, 16th in the league) and terrible in the defensive zone (43.5 per cent, 29th).

It's an area in which Leafs coach Mike Babcock would like to see improvement, given his emphasis on possessing the puck. "It's the simplest 1-on-1 battle in the game, why wouldn't you win it?" he said.

There are stories of centres losing faceoffs on purpose back in the 1980s to lull the opposition into a sense of complacency until a faceoff really mattered late in the third period.

"That wouldn't fly around here," Bozak says.

"You don't ever do that," Smith adds. "You don't have the puck if you're losing faceoffs. Found that out the past few years. If you're losing faceoffs, you tend to be chasing the puck all night."

Babcock has divided the 82-game schedule into five-game segments, urging the team to get six points over that span. But he has done the same with faceoffs, encouraging the centres to do better the next segment than they did the previous. That has the players tracking their faceoff numbers the same way most pay attention to goals and assists.

"You check after every game and you keep track in your head," Smith says. "The important thing is to approach every one like you're going to win it. You're not going to win all of them. No one goes 100 per cent.

"You watch film and you try to have a plan, but sometimes that can change throughout the game. Some things work. Some things don't. You try to see what they're doing in the three or four seconds you're lined up. You try to come up with a plan." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **Everyone has a job to get that puck back, and we're able to play from there.** Ben Smith

Tyler Bozak leads Maple Leafs centres in faceoff success winning 57.1 per cent of the time.
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Carr rallies Raiders to their 10th victory

NFL

Oakland racks up its sixth comeback win of the season

When the Buffalo Bills took a 15-point lead midway through the third quarter, the game was right in the comfort zone for the Oakland Raiders.

Derek Carr led yet another comeback with two touchdown passes in the second half and Khalil Mack helped force two turnovers that rallied the Raiders to their biggest comeback in 16 years with a 38-24 victory over the Buffalo Bills on Sunday.

The Raiders (10-2) scored the final 29 points to mount their sixth fourth-quarter comeback of the season and win their sixth straight game overall, remaining one game ahead of Kansas City in the tough AFC West.

"We don't want to be in these positions where we're playing from behind," said running back Latavius Murray, who ran for two scores. "We want to dominate from start to finish. We keep finding ourselves in these situations, which is the reason we have to continue to improve and get better."

The Raiders fell behind 24-9 following touchdowns on the first two drives of the second half for Buffalo (6-6), before mounting the biggest comeback win since rallying from 21 points down to beat Indianapolis 38-31 on Sept. 10, 2000.

Oakland scored touchdowns on three straight drives, including scoring strikes from Carr to Michael Crabtree and Amari Cooper for his 11th career fourth-quarter comeback.

The defence also tightened by forcing three straight three-and-outs and then getting a turnover when Khalil Mack deflected Tyrod Taylor's pass that Nate Allen intercepted. Oakland took over at the 16 and put the game away with Murray's second touchdown run of the game to make it 38-24 on Carr's two-point conversion pass to Seth Roberts.

The loss was crushing for the Bills, who entered December with hopes of ending the league's longest playoff drought. A big day by LeSean McCoy, who had 130 yards rushing, helped stake Buffalo to the big lead, but it wasn't enough.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Khalil Mack of the Raiders deflects a pass by Bills quarterback Tyrod Taylor on Sunday. THEARON W. HENDERSON/GETTY IMAGES

SUNDAY In Oakland

RAIDERS	BILLS
38	24

PREMIER LEAGUE

Late lapses cost Liverpool, United

Individual errors proved costly for Liverpool and Manchester United on a day of late goals and incredible comebacks in English soccer on Sunday.

2
Manchester United has just two wins since Aug. 27.

Liverpool conceded three goals in the final 20 minutes to lose 4-3 at Bournemouth in the Premier League. The collapse was sealed when Liverpool goalkeeper Loris Karius fumbled a shot in the third minute of injury time, gifting Nathan Ake the chance to grab the winner.

Hours later, United was held 1-1 at Everton after Marouane Fellaini conceded an 88th-minute penalty with a clumsy foul, two minutes after coming on as a substitute. Leighton Baines scored from the spot.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Switzerland's Gut back on top at Lake Louise

Lara Gut of Switzerland won Sunday's super-G at the Lake Louise World Cup. It was her third super-G victory at the Alberta resort after wins in 2014 and 2013.

Tina Weirather of Liechtenstein was second a tenth of a second back.

The race was delayed and shortened due to heavy snow.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jones captures Canada Cup

Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones downed Ottawa's Rachel Homan 9-5 to win the women's 2016 Canada Cup of Curling title on Sunday in Brandon, Man.

Jones took a 5-0 lead after a steal of four in the third end and cruised to victory.

Homan and Jones had already earned berths in next year's Olympic curling trials. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SPONSORED CONTENT — RAPTORS 905

Raptors 905's new local talent

The Raptors 905 is a team stacked with impressive young up-and-coming players. Two of its newest local talents are Brady Heslip and Negus Webster-Chan.

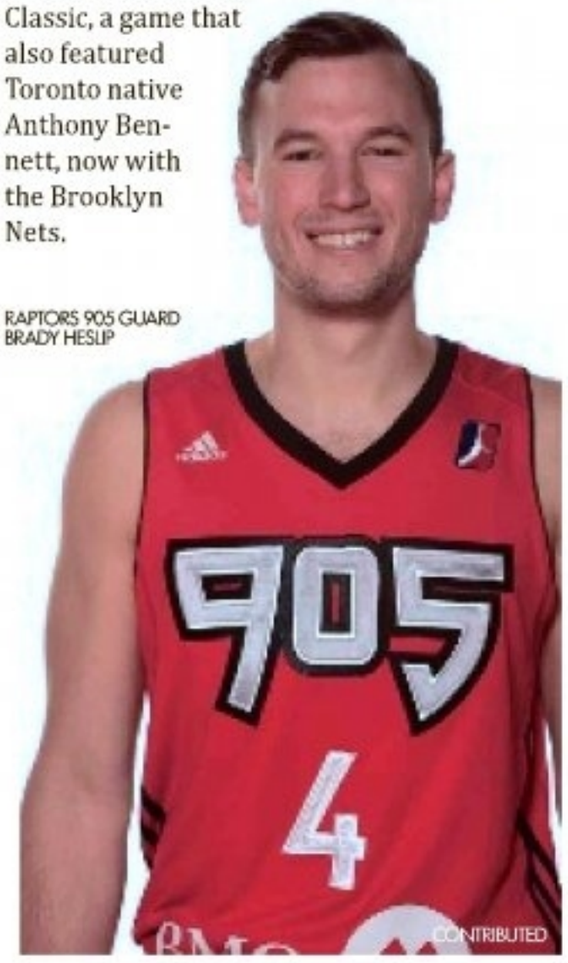
Heslip is redefining sharp shooter. In fact, the Oakville native is considered one of the best pure shooters in the game – globally. He holds the D-League record for most three-point baskets in a single game with 13.

While his dad was a pro and his uncle is Canadian basketball icon Jay Triano, the 26-year-old Heslip is intent on forging his own path. The pure shooter is poised for greater things for himself, the Raptors 905 – and his country, as a member of the men's national squad.

Meanwhile Webster-Chan, a Scarborough native who turns 24 in January, is also on the rise. The dynamic six-foot-seven small forward earned his spot on the roster after a game of H-O-R-S-E with coach Jerry Stackhouse during an open-call tryout for prospective players. But he has clocked some serious kilometres en route to the 905.

From the University of Missouri to the University of Hawaii to the NBL's Halifax Hurricanes, last season.

Now that he's earned a spot on the Raptors 905 squad Webster-Chan is looking for solidity and sustained success. And he's already tasted huge acclaim at the Air Canada Centre: earning the MVP at the 2011 All Canadian Classic, a game that also featured Toronto native Anthony Bennett, now with the Brooklyn Nets.



RAPTORS 905 GUARD BRADY HESLIP

CONTRIBUTED

Tiger encouraged by return outing

GOLF

Woods posts most birdies but finishes back in 15th

The return of Tiger Woods was more about the big picture than any of his big numbers.

And that started with the sight of that red shirt on Sunday.

Woods grumbled about three more double bogeys in the final round of the Hero World Challenge. Considering how badly he has felt in the 15 months since he last played, he still was able to keep it in perspective.

"It feels good to be back out here playing again, competing and trying to beat the best players in the world," Woods said. "I missed it. I love it."

He even loved some of his golf at Albany.

Woods made 24 birdies, the most of anyone this week. He also had six double bogeys, three of them in the final round. The last one on the final hole, his third of the week on the 18th, gave him a 4-over 76. It was the highest score of the tournament, and he finished 15th (4 under par) in the 17-man field.

The other players were not about to measure him by his score — not yet, anyway.

"It's great to see him back and healthy and playing. I want to see him up in contention and try to beat him when it matters the most," said British Open champion Henrik Stenson, who finished second.

THE WINNER

Hideki Matsuyama finished at 18 under par to earn his third straight win.

"Give him three or four tournaments, maybe six tournaments, maybe around the Masters. It's easy to overanalyze a very limited amount of golf."

Woods had gone 466 days since his previous tournament because of two back surgeries. The recovery at times made it difficult for him to walk and led him to wonder if he would ever play.

"Getting back to this point is beyond anything that I've ever experienced in my lifetime," Woods said. "The pain issues that I had, it was rough. Quite frankly, there some pretty dire times where I just couldn't move."

Woods showed no stress in his swing or in walking five straight rounds, starting with the pro-am. He had plenty of length, at times going after his driver with a little more pop to clear a bunker. He holed a few long putts. He missed a few short ones. At times, he looked like he had never been away for that long. And at times it did.

"It's kind of new to me again, the feel of playing, the feel of adrenaline in my system, hitting shots," Woods said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tiger Woods placed 15th in the 17-man field, finishing at 4 under par. CHRISTIAN PETERSEN/GETTY IMAGES

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Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

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Ready in 15 minutes
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 10 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 3 cups spelt flour
- 3 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 2 1/2 cups milk
- 1 cup cubed mozzarella
- freshly chopped basil
- 1/4 cup fresh shaved Parmesan cheese
- 1 cup marinara sauce

Directions

1. In a large bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt and garlic powder. Add the milk; stir until blended.

2. Heat your waffle iron to desired temperature.

3. Ladle the batter into preheated waffle iron and sprinkle with 1/4 cup mozzarella and basil. Cook the waffles until golden and crisp.

4. Serve immediately with an extra sprinkle of mozzarella, Parmesan cheese and a side of marinara sauce for dipping.

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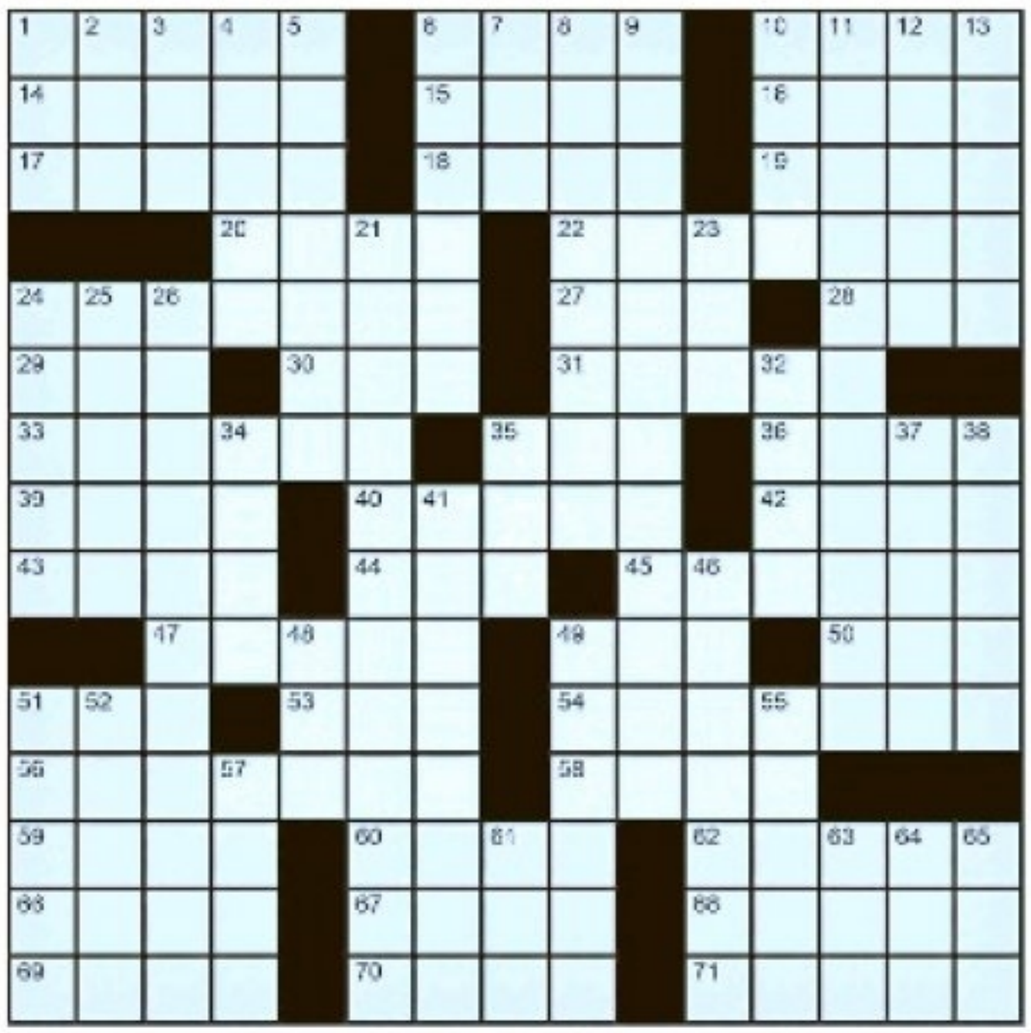
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. "Close but no _."
6. Anti-apartheid activist Desmond
10. Chew at
14. Famous beach in Australia
15. Preachy positive
16. Puerto _
17. Pre-surgery cleanse
18. Tussle
19. Mr. Stravinsky
20. Drip-drop reason
22. Elvis: Graceland's location
24. Bitter
27. Classic range cooker company
28. Ka-boom-er!
29. Tic-Tac-Toe loser
30. Raggedy Ann's hair
31. Big name in dance in Saint Petersburg
33. Saskatchewan village; or, "CHiPs" star Larry
35. "For _ a jolly good..."
36. Told a tale
39. Family suffix in zoology
40. _ your own course
42. _ _ other (Without equals)
43. Mr. Saarinen of architecture
44. Asleep
45. Figurine
47. Old Testament hymn
49. Rock logo insurance co.
50. City in Florida, briefly
51. Kingston Trio hit
53. Science eggs
54. Get even more suds off
56. Hurry up and enter: 3 wds.
58. 'Peculiar'-meaning prefix
59. Actor, Corbin _
60. Mineral deposit
62. "Are we still _ _ Saturday?" (Weekend-planner's query)
66. Ailments
67. Ms. Tyler's
68. 'U' of UHF
69. Knight's adventurous tale
70. Modify manuscripts
71. Actor, Max von Who?

DOWN
1. TV network
2. World games org.
3. Slash's rock gr.
4. _ Contemporary (Music category)
5. Alfonso of "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air"
6. Assigned to a chore
7. Li'l baseball official
8. Coffee preparer's opposite: 2 wds.
9. Not officially recorded
10. Film set job
11. The painting at #21-Down is featured on the cover of what 1973 Bruce Cockburn album?: 2 wds.
12. "Does anybody have _ _?" (Pre-game toss query)
13. Brooklyn Bridge tune: "_ That Could Happen"
21. Canadian artist (b.1920 - d.2013) of 1954 iconic painting Horse and Train: 2 wds.
23. Wreck
24. Mr. Mandel of "America's Got Talent"
25. Rusty stuff, Iron _
26. Green energy additions to homes: 2 wds.
32. Patron saint of Norway
34. Corp. leaders
35. Chapeau: English
37. Tech sch. grads
38. "Republic of _"
41. Man-like robot
46. Raging
48. Get an '_' _, as per school assignments
49. Man of the collar
51. Canadian chocolate bar: 2 wds.
52. Bridal fabric
55. "If _ _ Had a Brain": The Scarecrow's theme
57. Dethrone
61. Gladiator's 506
63. Bouquet delivery letters
64. _-Medonte (Ontario township)
65. Sore

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
This is a great day to schmooze and enjoy the company of others. However, postpone important decisions until tomorrow. Shop for gas or food only.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Details about your personal life might be more public than you expect them to be today. Someone is checking you out. Postpone important decisions until tomorrow.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You might want to make travel plans or explore matters in medicine and the law. Do your research and homework, but wait until tomorrow to initiate any action.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
This is a poor day to make decisions about shared property, taxes, debt, inheritances and insurance matters. Just do your homework and get the facts.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will have to go more than halfway when dealing with others today because the Moon is opposite your sign. This is a good day to be social. Keep things light.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Be careful at work today, because this is a bad day to volunteer for anything or agree to anything important. Just keep your head down and your powder dry.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a wonderful, creative, fun-loving day! Use today's energy for artistic projects, schmoozing with others and enjoying playful activities with children.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
This is a good day to play hooky and just stay at home. Don't shop for anything other than gas and food. Don't make important decisions.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a loosey-goosey day. Short trips, errands and conversations with everyone will be pleasant. Don't expect too much from others or yourself. Just coast.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Avoid important financial decisions today. If shopping, buy gas, food or minor things only — no major purchases.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You might feel more emotional than usual today, because the Moon is in your sign. You will also feel a bit disconnected and indecisive. No worries, because this feeling is gone by tomorrow.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
People are impressed with you. However, take note: Don't volunteer for anything today, and do not agree to anything important. Postpone important decisions until tomorrow.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

				3		9		5
	7		2				1	
					1			8
	4			9	3	6		
9								4
		8	5	4			3	
8			4					
	9				7		2	
7		1		6				

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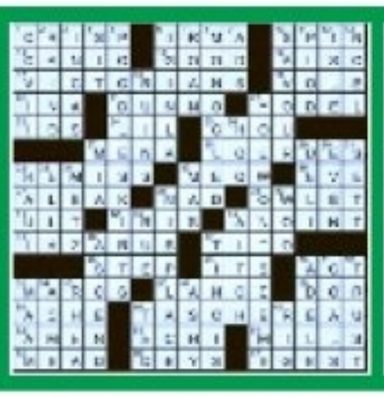
FRIDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games



9	1	5	2	3	4	6	7	8
4	7	2	8	5	6	3	1	9
3	8	6	9	7	1	2	4	5
7	9	1	4	6	2	5	8	3
2	6	3	1	8	5	7	9	4
5	4	8	7	9	3	1	6	2
8	3	7	6	2	9	4	5	1
6	5	4	3	1	8	9	2	7
1	2	9	5	4	7	8	3	6

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